

September 25, 2014

The regular meeting of the Giles County School Board was held at 4:00 p.m. on September 25, 2014 in the Giles High School auditorium. Persons present were:

E. G. Gentry
J. M. Gollehon, Jr.
Drema K. McMahon
J. L. Webb, Jr., Chairman
R. B. Whitehead

Dr. Terry E. Arbogast II, Superintendent
D. Scott Meade, Assistant Superintendent
Amanda J. Tickle, Clerk

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Board, on motion of Mr. Whitehead, with second by Mr. Whitehead and unanimous voting, approved the Superintendent's September 25th, 2014 School Board Meeting Agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mrs. Melissa Conley, new GEA President, spoke on behalf of the GEA. "Good afternoon, today I would like to take a moment to thank you for allowing me to speak at the pre-school conference and I would like to thank Mr. Gentry for recognizing GEA in his message. We were able to recognize 13 members for their hard work and dedication with 20 or more years of service during our annual GEA meeting on that day as well. Giles County is blessed to have such loyal teachers who give of themselves so wholeheartedly. The 2014-2015 school year is in full bloom and moving along quickly. There are many great things going on in our schools and our students are learning in leaps and bounds. GEA recognizes the issues facing our localities and hardships placed upon them by the lack of state funding. We are completely aware of the bleak financial projections that are coming out of Richmond for the next few years. However, we are also completely aware of the issues facing teachers every day in the classroom. We are grateful to be able to work alongside you and the board of supervisors again this year to address these issues. VEA Lobby Day is coming up soon and hopefully, our elected officials will be listening as well. GEA is continually looking for ways to better serve its members and the Giles County Public School System. We are striving to pull our faculty and staff together for a more united organization that works well together for the success of our students. We have several important activities on our agenda to help with our goal. Next Tues, Sept. 30 GEA/VEA is sponsoring a workshop providing assistance with completing our evaluations. As of right now, at least 20 people are attending. We will be having a new teacher dinner, Issues in Education classes, and we are looking into many other activities to assist our faculty and staff. October is disability awareness month and we are considering ways to bring this topic to the forefront of everyone's minds. We will also be completing a member survey that will hopefully, give us better insight into the needs of our staff and we will be sharing that with you as well in the near future. Lastly this afternoon, as you know a survey on the longevity step was completed and the results have been evaluated. Two options were given: 1. To leave as is 2. To divide over 4 years. The 2014-2015 salary scale was also presented to all staff in addition to the survey. A disappointing 103 people only responded and the results were 48.54% to leave as is and 51.46% to divide. GEA feels that this is an issue that needs to be revisited and discussed further.

Dr. Webb stated that the School Board would like to spend more time discussing the longevity step. Mrs. Conley and board members discussed better ways to inform teachers about the longevity step. Dr. Webb stated that we still haven't addressed those 17 people who fell short on the raise due to the longevity step and we need to do something for those individuals. Mrs. McMahon asked Mrs. Conley about teacher evaluation. Mrs. Conley stated that they are doing a training to help teachers with their evaluations and what they are supposed to be doing. Mr. Gentry asked Mrs. Conley about the new survey that they would be doing. Mr. Gentry suggested that they add something about the facilities/buildings/classrooms to see if they had any suggestions on what to add or change.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

The Board, on motion of Mrs. McMahon, with second by Mr. Gentry and unanimous voting, accepted the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following consent items:

A. Meeting Minutes

1. Regular – August 22, 2014

B. Financial Data

1. Payrolls to include August 15th, 30th and September 15th, 2014
2. Payment of Bills to include August 7th, 13th, 21st, 27th and September 4th, 10th, 11th and 17th, 2014
3. August 2014 Revenue and Expenditure Reports
4. 2014-2015 PAC & Calendar Advisory Committees
5. Field Trips 2014-2015

- 6. 2014-2015 Gifted Plan
- 7. Appropriation Request for October 2014
 - TO: Christopher McKlarney
Interim Administrator for Giles County
 - FR: Dr. Terry E. Arbogast, II
Division Superintendent
 - RE: October 2014 Appropriation

The following is the appropriation request for the month of October 2014. This is for the fourth month of the fiscal year 2014-15. I would appreciate the Board's consideration of this request. The request for the operating budget is consistent with the approved operating budget submitted by the School Board.

Original Monthly Appropriation Request:	\$ 2,160,084.00
(Operating + Flow-thru)	
Total:	\$ 2,160,084.00

This request is one-twelfth of the operating budget and includes the anticipated monthly expenditures in the flow-thru account. Our year to date appropriation and expenditures are contained in the monthly summary. If you have questions, please feel free to let me know.

EDUCATIONAL FEATURE

Mr. Rader, MMS Principal, presented the educational feature on behalf of Macy McClougherty School. Mr. Rader shared a PowerPoint with some pictures of what is already going on in his school. He thanked the Special Education department for the new playground. He shared a picture of some teachers at a meeting with NanoSonic individuals and discussed the awarding of the first grant. Mr. Rader discussed some things that they have changed for breakfast and lunch. He then discussed some example lesson plans and some summer reading for students in the community. The theme this year for Macy is "Build Relationships". He discussed the Title I parent meeting at the beginning of the school year and some Title I classrooms/activities. He also showed pictures of other teachers in their classrooms and explained activities that they are doing with their students.

Board members and Dr. Arbogast thanked Mr. Rader. Mr. Gentry thanked Mr. Rader for his use of cross training in the school.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- A. The Superintendent recommended action and Board approval of the following personnel/contractual items:
 - 1. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gentry, with second by Mrs. McMahan and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Employment**: Shanda Green – MMS Special Ed. Teacher Assistant, Seth Brown – Maintenance (effective 9/29/14)
 - 2. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gollehon, with second by Mr. Whitehead and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Supplemental Contracts**: Cecilia McFaden – GHS Annual, Barbara Scheid – GHS MACC English, Pam Malabad – GHS MACC All Around/MACC Math, Randy Weddle – GHS MACC Social Studies, Diana Blanton – GHS MACC All Around/GHS MACC Science/GHS MACC Head, Sarah Sells – GHS Senior Class
 - 3. The School Board, on motion of Mrs. McMahan, with second by Mr. Gentry and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Athletic Coaching Contracts**: Angela Palmer – GHS JV Cheerleading, Tammy Sanders – GHS Varsity Cheerleading, Kayla Stump – NHS Asst. Varsity Volleyball (Volunteer), Rachel Smith – GHS Volleyball (Volunteer), Joe Fraley – NHS Varsity Boys/Girls Track
 - 4. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gentry, with second by Mr. Gollehon and unanimous voting, confirmed the following **Volunteer Agreements**: Lori Hansen – EEMS Library, Sandi Webster – EEMS Library
 - 5. The School Board, on motion of Mrs. McMahan, with second by Mr. Whitehead and unanimous voting, confirmed the following Substitute Teachers to date.
 - 6. The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gollehon, with second by Mrs. McMahan and unanimous voting, approved the bid from Newberry Ford for services specified in IFB #9-2014 (purchase of 2 drivers education vehicles). This was the only bid received.

CONCERNS/COMMENTS

Mr. Gentry mentioned the longevity step and the 3% raise intended from the Board of Supervisors side. He thinks we should do the 3%

raise for the 10 individuals that received a very minimal raise, based on where they fell on the . On motion of Mr. Gentry, with second by Mrs. McMahon and unanimous voting, approved the motion to give the 10 individuals a 3% raise. Dr. Webb abstained from voting and discussion.

Mr. Gentry discussed the Ag Land Lab that is currently in the works at Giles High School. He stated that they are moving ahead on it and have a business plan from the extension office. They are looking ahead to get some programming in. This is very exciting. They will have a bull up there the first of the year. There are some really good people with great ideas!

Mr. Gentry discussed “robots”. He has a friend that lives up in northern Virginia that is into “Vex Robotics”. Right now at Eastern, they are doing “Lego”, which is a part of the STEM program. He is looking into some grant opportunities.

Mr. Gentry discussed the Regional Jail visit. Dr. Arbogast handed out potential flyers that will go out to parents of 7th grade students to help them understand what the visit is all about. Mr. Gentry stated that a few individuals went over and met with Mr. McPeak at the jail. This is not a “scared straight” at all. This is more of a “come in and talk” to help with self-esteem, bullying, etc. Dr. Webb stated that he would like parents to have an “opt out” in the event they do not want their child to go. Mrs. McMahon stated that by reading the handout, it was created was very reassuring.

Mrs. McMahon stated that she went to the game Friday night and she would like to recognize both Giles High and Narrows High for receiving the Safe Sports Schools Award. Also, a special thanks to Carilion Clinic Orthopedics for providing trainers. They do an outstanding job!

Mrs. McMahon stated that the NHS football field looked really good.

Mrs. McMahon stated that she had one request. There has been a discussion before about the cash balance in the school cafeteria funds. She knows the amount she has is probably lower now because of summer upgrades. She would like to discuss the possibility of getting a school cafeteria coordinator to access some of the meals, quality, etc.

Mr. Whitehead give out information on the Southwest Virginia Governor’s School. He stated that “The Southwest Virginia Governor's School (SWVGS) was selected by *Virginia Living* magazine as one of the Top High Schools and Colleges in Virginia. This distinction was reported in the recently released issue. *Virginia Living* State of Education, a special bound-in supplement to *Virginia Livings* October issue, celebrates excellence and innovation in Virginias schools. *Virginia Livings* Top High Schools & Colleges 2014 recognizes schools for excellence and innovation in five categories: Arts & Humanities, Science, Math & Technology, Performing Arts, Health & Medicine and Capital Improvements. After thorough review of each school’s programs and accomplishments, *Virginia Livings* editors selected schools that have instituted programs or recently begun capital improvements aimed at strengthening students experiences in and beyond the classroom. The unique sea ice research program at SWVGS led to selection of the Governor’s School for this year’s list of recognized education programs across the state. You can read more about the Governor’s School’s Arctic Research collaboration here: <http://swvgs.us/content.php?page=ArcticResearch>.

Mr. Gollehon commended the Macy educational feature! All of the schools are doing so many great things!

Mr. Gollehon commended two of our teachers (Kevin and Verena Riley) for the concert that they done. It was absolutely wonderful! Such beautiful music!

Dr. Webb welcomed Lee Stephens from The Virginian Leader!

Dr. Webb stated that he had the pleasure of meeting with Ms. Laura Blevins, who is the Regional Director for Senator Tim Kaine. He and Dr. Arbogast shared what was going on in Giles County. They hope to have Senator Kaine come visit our schools at some point.

Dr. Webb asked if we have seen the most recent audit reports. Dr. Arbogast stated that we have not seen them yet.

Dr. Arbogast gave an update on enrollment. As of right now, we are at 2424, which is about one less than where we ended the school year last year.

Dr. Arbogast gave an update on the summer food program. The number of child meals served during the program at NHS (lunch) was 5,749 and the number of adult meals served is 2,998. Both numbers from NHS are up from last year. The number of child meals served during the program at MMS (breakfast) was 972 and the number of adult meals served was 368.

Dr. Arbogast stated that the Community Health Center of the NRV was awarded the G-SMILE Rural Health Network Development Grant. Over the new few months, a digital dental operatory at the Giles Community Health Center in Pearisburg will be added. There will be two operatories and four full and part-time staff to man this program. Along with direct patient care, they will also focus on community collaborations, especially in the schools, around outreach and prevention.

Dr. Arbogast also congratulated Narrows and Giles High for receiving the Safe Sports School Awards last Friday. Carilion Clinic Orthopedics applied for it and the National Athletic Trainers Association awarded it.

On September 16th, DOE made the release of accreditation information and the federal AMO information. He stated that 4 schools are fully accredited (EEMS, MMS, NHS and NEMS). There were 2 schools that met federal AMO's, which were NHS and NEMS. Congratulations to those schools!

Dr. Arbogast stated that the New River Career Pathways Consortium has received the 2014 Virginia Career and Technical Education Creating Excellence Award from the Virginia Department of Education and the CTE Community College Advisory Committee through Virginia's Community Colleges.

IN OTHER ACTION...

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gentry, with second by Mrs. McMahon and unanimous voting, approved the following Athletic Coaching Contracts: Chris Gautier – NHS Head Boys Basketball, Dennis Kidd – NHS Head Soccer, Kelly Lowe – NHS Varsity Softball, Debbie Lusk – NHS Head Varsity Cheer Coach/Varsity Girls Tennis Coach, Billy Lucas – NHS 8th Grade Track/Head Boys JV Basketball, Brock Lusk – NHS Head Boys 8th Grade Basketball, Leah Witt – NHS Asst. Soccer, Todd Guynn – NHS Head Girls JV Basketball, Wayne Gautier – NHS Head Girls Basketball, Sherry Gautier – NHS Head JV Cheer Coach, Kayla Lively – NHS JV Softball, Josh Sparks – NHS Varsity Boys Tennis.

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Whitehead, with second by Mr. Gollehon and unanimous voting, approved the following Volunteer Agreements: Pat Fullen – EEMS Library, Terry Beckner – EEMS Library.

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gollehon, with second by Mr. Whitehead and unanimous voting, approved additional 2014-2015 field trips.

The School Board, on motion of Mr. Gollehon, with second by Mrs. McMahon and unanimous voting, approved a list of surplus from NHS.

Dr. Arbogast stated that he recently received an email stating that Giles County received a grant regarding the School Safety grants. Giles County will receive \$79K for school safety equipment (cameras, badge systems, etc.).

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next School Board Meeting will be held Thursday, October 16th, 2014 at 4:00 p.m.

The Chairman, on motion of Mr. Gollehon, with second by Mr. Whitehead and unanimous voting, adjourned the meeting.

Chairman

Clerk